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01/10/2011 Approved Minutes

Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group (DTG)
Meeting of January 10, 2011
Minutes Approved March 14, 2011

Present: Kaitlyn O'Connell (co-chair), Miriam Stein (co-chair), Mary Harrison, Jane Howard, Jill Lewis, Louise Popkin

Report on outreach flyer for Town Meeting Members: Flyer pictures show diversity. Flyers will be distributed at MLK event on Jan. 16; DTG will see that unused flyers are collected for redistribution. Will be placed in markets, restaurants, Boys' & Girls' Club, coffee shops, etc. Will be given to school Parent Teacher Organizations to distribute. Will see about putting in Advocate in addition to an article being drafted.

Third Annual Diversity Disability Job Fair will be on Thurs., April 7 from 10 am to noon. Greg Ames will be point person; he is meeting with the Commission on Disabilities on Jan. 19. Volunteers needed for Fair.

Report on Civil Disagreement meetings: Message from first meeting in Nov. 2010 was Respond quickly and in a coordinated way; have town leaders speak, media help get message out. Last meeting put together a team to think about structure for the future. This group will look at past incidents and anticipate future incidents and come up with possible responses that can be made by Quick Response team. Coordinating group meets Feb. 1; Civil Rights group meets later in Feb. Town public relations officer will be invited to attend Feb. 1.

Outreach to Hispanic residents will be researched by Louise. She will speak with Library Director to learn how many Hispanics participate in English Language meetings; school Supt. to see how many students speak Spanish as first language. Outreach should be tailored to number of people who can benefit.

Jane presented 2011 Survey that accompanies Town Census, explained survey and fiscal issues.

Mary reported a new Town Meeting Member who is on the procedures committee will use the DTG report on New Town Meeting Members and suggestions from the new Town Meeting Member cohort to create an orientation/procedures helpful to new Town Meeting Member.